

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ECLA, SHUM, SYG, CI
SUBJECT: POPULAR UNITY DELEGATION VISITS UN SECRETARIAT

REF: A) USUN 2395; B) USUN 2416

1. SUMMARY: TWO CHILEAN OPPOSITION MEMBERS MET WITH UNDER-SECRETARY BUFFUM TO EXPRESS CONCERN OVER LACK OF RESPONSE BY THE CHILEAN GOVERNMENT (GOC) TO SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM'S REQUEST FOR INFORMATION CONCERNING THE 36 MISSING MEMBERS OF THE FAMILIES OF THE 26 HUNGER STRIKERS WHO OCCUPIED ECLA HEAD-QUARTERS-SANTIAGO FOR SOME DAYS IN JUNE. THE TWO CHILEANS ALSO MET WITH AMBASSADOR LOWENSTEIN TO OFFER SUGGESTIONS AND VIEWS ABOUT HIS UPCOMING TRIP TO CHILE. END SUMMARY.

2. INSUNZA AND ZALAQUETT (REFTEL A) (MIRANDA WAS DETAINED IN MEXICO FOR PERSONAL REASONS) MET WITH UN UNDER-SECRETARY BUFFUM AND UN LEGAL COUNSEL SUY ON MORNING AUGUST 3. AFTERWARDS THESE CHILEANS TOLD MISOFF ABOUT MEETING.

3. INSUNZA EXPRESSED DISMAY THAT THERE HAD BEEN NO RESPONSE FROM GOC TO FORMAL REQUEST OF WALDHEIM MADE SHORTLY AFTER JUNE HUNGER STRIKE CONCERNING STATUS OF THE 36 MISSING FAMILY MEMBERS OF THE 26 HUNGER STRIKERS. BUFFUM REPLIED
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THAT IGLESIAS HAD VERY RECENTLY COME TO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE 26 THAT A PERIOD OF 90 DAYS WOULD BE A RESONABLE TIME TO ALLOW THE GOC BEFORE FURTHER REPRESENTATIONS WERE MADE. BUFFUM FURTHER REPORTED THAT HE HAD INSTRUCTED IGLESIAS TO COMMUNICATE THIS ATTITUDE TO GOC. BUFFUM ADDED THAT IGLESIAS WOULD BE IN NEW YORK IN ABOUT TEN DAYS, AND BUFFUM THEN WOULD DISCUSS MATTER FURTHER WITH IGLESIAS.

INSUNZA SUGGESTED THAT IT WOULD BE WELL TO HAVE IN HAND ALL THE INFORMATION POSSIBLE ON THE 36 MISSING PERSONS SHOULD THE GOC PLEAD NO KNOWLEDGE. BUFFUM AGREED, AND ASKED THAT THE GROUPS IN CHILE CONCERNED ABOUT MISSING PERSONS GATHER THIS INFORMATION AND MAKE IT AVAILABLE TO IGLESIAS. BUFFUM ALSO COMMENTED THAT THE TERM OF 90 DAYS WOULD EXPIRE AT ABOUT TIME OF UNGA OPENING, THUS PUTTING PERHAPS SOME EXTRA PRESSURE ON GOC TO PROVIDE INFORMATION BEFORE PERIOD EXPIRES.

4. BUFFUM ADDED THAT, THOUGH THE HUNGER STRIKE WAS ILLEGAL AND CREATED AND UNFORTUNATE PRECEDENT, WALDHEIM AND THE UN HAD TRIED TO TREAT IT AS AN EXCEPTIONAL CASE IN SO FAR AS POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THE SERIOUS SITUATION IN CHILE. HOWEVER, THE UN WANTS TO KEEP ALL CHANNELS OPEN AND TO WORK IN THE FUTURE WITHIN ESTABLISHED PROCEDURES. INSUNZA REPLIED THAT ONLY THE DESPERATION OF THE 26 HAD LED TO THIS HUNGER STRIKE, AND THAT, UNLESS THE "EVASIONS AND VAGUE ANSWERS" OF THE GOC CONTINUED, HE WOULD ASSUME THAT THESE CHANNELS WOULD BE ADEQUATE.

5. BUFFUM TOLD THE CHILEANS THAT IGLESIAS SHOULD BE ALLOWED THE MAXIMUM AMOUNT OF FREEDOM TO CONDUCT THE NEGOTIATIONS IN SANTIAGO. THE CHILEANS ASSUMED THAT THIS WAS AN INDIRECT REQUEST TO AVOID PUBLICITY AT THIS TIME, AND SAID TO MISOFF THAT THEY WERE CANCELLING THEIR PREVIOUS CONFIDENTIAL

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PLANS TO GIVE INTERVIEWS ON THE MATTER, AND WOULD MAKE NO PUBLIC STATEMENT AT THIS TIME.

6. IN CONVERSATION WITH MISOFF, INSUNZA EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE VISA TO ENABLE HIS VISIT TO NEW YORK. HE NOTED THAT HE WAS WELL RECEIVED BY CONSULATE IN BERLIN. HE ALSO ASKED IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO GET TWO TRAVEL DISPENSATIONS: THE FIRST TO SPEND THE WEEK-END IN GREAT NECK, NEW YORK, VISITING IN HOME OF FRIENDS; AND THE SECOND, TO GO TO WASHINGTON NEXT WEEK FOR SOME DAYS TO TALK TO SOME MEMBERS OF CONGRESS. (HE WOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY ZALAQUETT.) MISOFF ADVISED HIM OF PROCEDURE TO FOLLOW WITH INS.

7. ZALAQUETT, INSUNZA, THREE STAFF OF CHILE DEMOCRATICO, AND MISOFF THEN HAD LUNCH WITH AMB. LOWENSTEIN. ZALAQUETT AND INSUNZA GAVE LOWENSTEIN A GENERAL OVERVIEW OF THEIR VISION OF THE PRESENT CHILEAN SITUATION, AND SUGGESTED SOME PERSONS HE MIGHT VISIT ON HIS UPCOMING TRIP TO CHILE, AND SOME QUESTIONS HE MIGHT RAISE WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.
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